

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 8-22 are all the claims pending in the present application, claims 3 and 7 being cancelled and claims 10-22 being added, as indicated herein. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Nonoshita et al. (EP 559,376).

Briefly, Nonoshita is directed to an image processing apparatus that receives reduced image data, edits the transferred image data and transfers the content of editing to another apparatus, which regenerates the original image from the transferred content of editing, the reduced image data, and the encoded data. The apparatus that regenerates the original image then prints the original image in an edited state. *See Abstract (57) of Nonoshita.* As further detailed at col. 4, lines 54 - col. 5, lines 13 of Nonoshita, original image data (100dpi) is compressed for communication or storage to a resolution of about 12.5 dpi, together with encoded data which contain information about the differences between the compressed data and the original data.

With respect to each of the independent claims, the claims describe the transfer of an image-processing parameter for processing an image. Claims 1, 4, 5, and 8-9 describe processing of the image parameter to a second parameter suitable for a second resolution. Nonoshita teaches derivation of an original resolution from lower compressed images, but does not specify image processes in variance with the resolution. Thus, Applicant submits that Nonoshita would include problems of the conventional art, including processing parameters for images that are not suitable for the particular resolution.

Further, with respect to independent claim 4, the Examiner alleges that “encoded data” corresponds to the claimed “information on a reference image-processing parameter”. However, there does not appear to be such “encoded data”. The only such encoded data set forth in Nonoshita is the encoded data C1-C5, and this encoded data relates to the differences between the compressed data and the original data, but does not correspond to the information on a reference image-processing parameter. Thus, the Examiner’s position does not appear to be supported by Nonoshita. At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Nonoshita does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 4.

Further, with respect to independent claim 5, Applicant submits argue that Nonoshita does not disclose or suggest at least, “parameter correction means for correcting a reference image-processing parameter set according to a reference resolution image having a reference resolution, based on a difference between said reference resolution and a second resolution for storage or transfer differing from said reference resolution, so that it becomes a second parameter corresponding to a second image for storage or transfer which has said second resolution, “as recited in claim 5. The Examiner alleges that the expansion circuit 8 set forth in Nonoshita satisfies the above-quoted element of claim 5. However, nowhere does Nonoshita disclose that the expansion circuit 8 performs the operations of the claimed parameter correction means. At col. 4, lines 21-29, Nonoshita only discloses that the expansion circuit 8 generates compressed encoded image data and expands the compressed image data in the JBIG method. Nowhere, however, are the specific claimed features set forth in claim 5 taught or suggested in Nonoshita. Therefore, Nonoshita does not anticipate the features of claim 5.

Further, with respect to independent claim 8, Applicant submits argue that Nonoshita does not disclose at least, “means for storing or transferring information on a reference image-processing parameter set according to a reference resolution image having a reference resolution and information on said reference resolution, along with a second image for storage or transfer which has a second resolution for storage or transfer differing from said reference resolution,” as recited in claim 8. The Examiner alleges that the main memory 2 set forth in Nonoshita corresponds to the claimed means for storing or transferring information. However, according to Applicant’s understanding, nowhere does Nonoshita disclose that the main memory 2 store information on a reference image-processing parameter along with a second image, which has a second resolution for storage or transfer differing from said reference resolution. Although the main memory 2 stores information, Nonoshita does not describe that the specific information set forth in the above-quoted limitation is stored in the main memory 2. Therefore, Nonoshita does anticipate the invention set forth in claim 8.

Finally, Applicants add new dependent claims 10-22 to provide a varying scope of coverage. Applicants submit that these new claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/774,706

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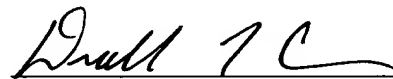
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